

QA-62

Caleb Clough House

Price vicinity

Private

circa 1820

The Caleb Clough House, though badly deteriorated, offers a unique opportunity to study an early 19th century dwelling that was constructed using a mixture of hand-made and machine-made hardware. Examples of at least six different types of early nails are evident, each used in a relatively specific context. The exposed condition of the framing allows detailed examination of the majority of the building, while sufficient architectural evidence remains to ascertain the original plan and many of the details.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Caleb Clough House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Northeast side of Maryland Route 405

CITY, TOWN

Price

 VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT
 BUILDING(S)
 STRUCTURE
 SITE
 OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC
 PRIVATE
 BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
 IN PROCESS
 BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED
 UNOCCUPIED
 WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
 YES: RESTRICTED
 YES: UNRESTRICTED
 NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE MUSEUM
 COMMERCIAL PARK
 EDUCATIONAL PRIVATE RESIDENCE
 ENTERTAINMENT RELIGIOUS
 GOVERNMENT SCIENTIFIC
 INDUSTRIAL TRANSPORTATION
 MILITARY OTHER vacant

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. & Mrs. Caleb W. Clough

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Price

 VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21656

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: TSP 11

Folio #: 432

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

PA-62

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE		CHECK ONE	
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Caleb Clough House is located on the northeast side of Maryland Route 405 approximately 1 1/2 miles southeast of Price. The building has been vacant for years, replaced by a modern ranch house that partially screens it from view. Several small barns and farm buildings are clustered to the north and east, directly behind the house.

Little more than the basic shell remains of the original dwelling and an adjoining wing, making analysis somewhat difficult. The original house is of frame construction, resting on the remnants of a continuous brick foundation. It is one-and-one-half stories high, five bays wide, and one room deep. The roof is a gambrel, with shed roof dormers on each facade. A story-and-a-half frame wing with a pitched roof projects from the southeast gable. Until recent years, there was a flush brick chimney centered on the northwest gable of the original house, and a larger shared chimney on the southeast gable which served both the house and the wing. These have been taken down, however, leaving only the lower portion of the southeast chimney intact.

The principal facade faces southwest, toward

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION

the road. The door is located in the center bay, flanked by a pair of two-over-two windows on each side. The three shed roof dormers are also fitted with two-over-two sash. A pair of two-over-two windows flanking the chimney on the second floor are the only openings on the northwest gable, while the southeast gable is almost entirely covered by the later wing. The rear or northeast facade is identical to the front facade, except that the center dormer window has been omitted.

The exterior walls are covered with flush board siding with rabbeted edges, secured with wire nails. The upper gable on the southeast wall is covered with plain horizontal weatherboards, probably dating to the construction of the wing. A plain box cornice with a beaded fascia board secured with hand-headed machine nails is carried across both facades of the original house. The rakeboards and cornerboards are plain, however, and do not appear to be early. Portions of the exterior siding have been covered with sheets of tin; the roof is covered with wood shingles.

The wing extends the full depth of the main house, but the roof is not as high, leaving the

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION

upper gable of the house partially exposed. There is a batten door in the center and a two-over-two window in the north bay of each facade of the wing, and a window opening in the center of the southeast gable on both floors. The wing rests on brick piers, with plain horizontal weatherboard siding, a plain box cornice, and a tin roof. Both the rakeboards and the cornerboards are plain.

The interior of the main house has been almost entirely stripped out. The original plan consisted of a center hall, with a single parlour on each side. The interior partitions were made of beaded vertical boards, while the remaining walls were apparently all plastered. The interior partitions have been removed, leaving a single board embedded in the plaster of the facade walls at each end. Early door trim has survived on both the front and rear doors, and window architraves remain on all four windows in the southeast parlour. Most of the beaded baseboard also survived in the southeast parlour, as well as two sections of chairrail. The corner posts protrude into the parlours at both ends, and in the southeast room

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.3 DESCRIPTION

are encased with one-inch boards with a full 3/4 bead on the corner. A badly damaged six-panel door remains in the loft of a nearby granary, presently serving to patch a hole in the crib partition. The panel mold is an ogee-astragal, identical to the back band found on both exterior door surrounds of the original house. The window surrounds in the parlour consist of a beaded fascia board with a quarter round back band set off by fillets. The shelf of the chairrail has a half-round nosing below a fillet, with a cavetto-astragal molding applied against a beaded fascia board directly below the shelf.

Very little else remains of the interior. The flooring has been removed from the first and second floor, and most of the second floor joists have been sawn off and removed. The original stair is gone, and the only visible details surviving on the second floor are the beaded boards that delineate the dormer window recesses and one section of beaded baseboard. The second floor plan duplicated the first floor, also utilizing beaded board partitions.

The framing system is clearly visible due to

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.4 DESCRIPTION

the exposed condition of the interior. The first floor joists are round logs, hewn flat on the top face but otherwise left rough with the bark still on. These are closely spaced and are notched over heavy hewn sills that rest on the brick foundation. The studs are mortised into the sills and into heavy, hewn top plates. The corner posts are also hewn, and are stabilized with hewn down braces. Both the corner posts and the top plates are thicker than the studs and therefore protrude into the room. The corner posts were dressed out using beaded one-inch boards, but the top plates were completely concealed by doubling the plaster lathing near the ceiling and allowing the plaster to feather out sufficiently to cover them. The second floor joists are hewn and machine-sawn, and are notched over the top plates. The roof is a standard gambrel frame, with the lower rafters mortise-and-tenoned to the second floor ceiling joists and supported by a flat false plate. The upper rafter pairs are mortise-and-tenoned at the ridge and rest on a flat curb plate. Short collar beams are half-dovetailed into the rafter pairs just below the roof peak, and are secured with a single

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.5 DESCRIPTION

nail driven through the joint. Unfortunately it is not possible to examine this detail, so the type of nail used cannot be determined.

The wing is partitioned on the first floor, leaving a large kitchen, with a small storeroom or pantry along the southeast gable wall. An enclosed stair is located in the south corner of the wing, with three steps along the southwest wall rising to a landing in the corner, and a straight flight rising from the landing to the loft along the southeast gable wall. A fireplace projects into the kitchen from the northwest wall, adjoining the main house. A door to the left of the fireplace allows access to the south parlour of the original house. All of the interior doors are constructed of relatively narrow beaded boards, and are hung on Victorian hinges. The lower walls are finished with plain horizontal "wainscoting", the upper walls and ceiling with plaster applied to machine-sawn lathing secured with machine nails.

The second floor is partitioned to form a small chamber at the southeast end and an unfinished

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.6 DESCRIPTION

store room at the northwest end. The southeast chamber is finished with plain horizontal pine boards nailed to the ceiling and knee walls. The store room is unfinished, leaving the rafters and roof boards exposed. The rafters are half-lapped and nailed at the ridge, and collar beams are half-dovetailed and nailed with machine nails. The exterior face of the gable studs on the main house are left exposed, and nail holes from the original exterior siding remain visible. A piece of riven clapboard is nailed to one stud in a vertical position, probably intended as a shim behind the siding. This would normally imply that the early siding was also riven clapboard, but the nail holes average 7 to 9 inches on center, suggesting beaded weatherboards.

Dating evidence for the original house consists largely of the first floor trim and the nails found in the framing. A variety of nails were found, including a few wrought, hand forged examples. The majority of nails, however, were hand-headed machine-made nails, which are generally believed to date from the last decade of the 18th century and the first quarter of the 19th century. These included all of the flooring

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.7 DESCRIPTION

nails, which had hand-struck T-heads on a machine-made shaft, and a good selection of normal framing nails with double-struck heads and machine-made shafts. Also in evidence were lathing and trim nails which appear to be early examples of totally machine-made nails. On the basis of this evidence a date of circa 1790-1825 is suggested, with the early machine-made lathing and trim nails arguing for the circa 1810-1825 period. The surviving trim tends to reinforce this conclusion. The chairrail is typical of circa 1790-1830, while the window and door architraves are somewhat ambiguous, but in general are also associated with this period.

The wing is not original, but offers little conclusive evidence of when it was added. The roof framing is most typical of the second quarter of the 19th century, utilizing machine-made nails, but continuing to use the traditional half-dovetail and mortise-and-tenon joints. The machine-sawn lathing used to install the first floor plaster would not generally be found before 1840, but may not be original. Cosmetic changes were clearly undertaken in both sections of the building in the late 19th

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.8 DESCRIPTION

century, as demonstrated by the two-over-two sash in both sections of the house, and the late batten doors in the kitchen.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

QA-62

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Caleb Clough House, though badly deteriorated, offers a unique opportunity to study and early 19th century dwelling that was constructed using a mixture of hand-made and machine-made hardware. Examples of at least six different types of early nails are evident, each used in a relatively specific context. The exposed condition of the framing allows detailed examination of the majority of the building, while sufficient architectural evidence remains to ascertain the original plan and many of the details.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

QA-62

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

1/12/79

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland 21617

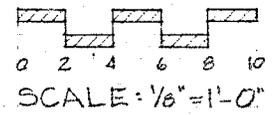
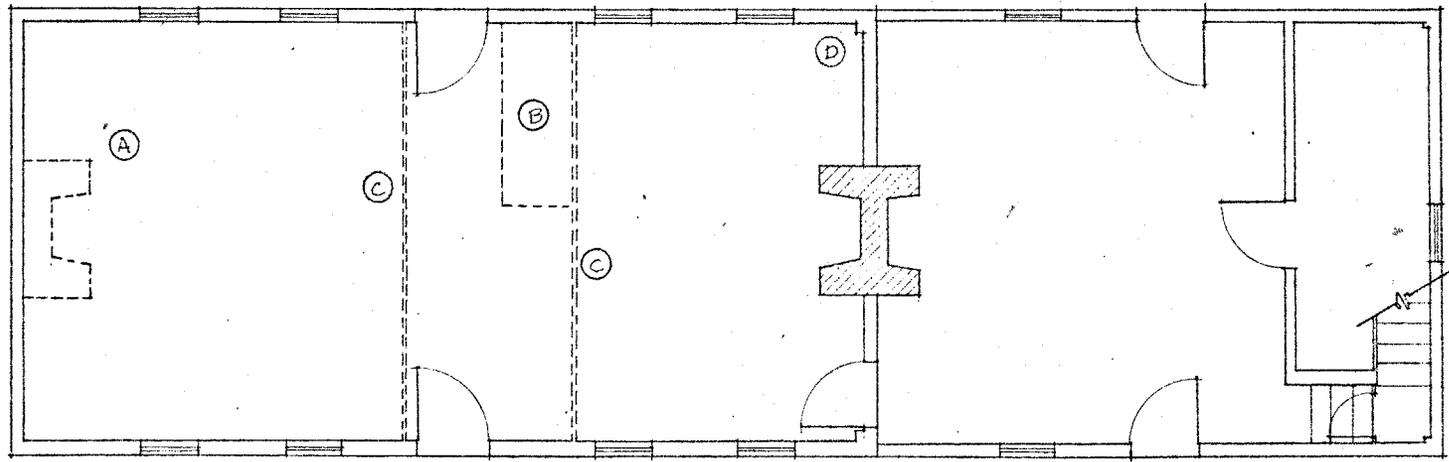
Field Book QA-VI, Recorded December 6, 1978.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

- A APPROXIMATE CONFIGURATION OF FIREPLACE.
- B APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF STAIR.
- C LOCATION OF ORIGINAL BOARDED PARTITIONS.
- D EXPOSED CORNER POSTS.



ORLANDO RIDOUT V

QA-62

CALEB CLOUGH HOUSE
PRICE, MARYLAND

DECEMBER 6, 1978.



Q. 4

Caleb Clough Farm
Pruce's Station

#62

QA-62



Q.A.

Callb Clough Farm
Price's Station
QA-62

62



Q.A.

#62

QA-62
Caleb Clough House w/
chimneys still standing

April 1974
JWW



OA-62 Caleb Clough House
Price Sta. vic.
OR V 1978



QA-62 Caleb Clough House
Pine Station vic.
ORV 1978